

Application No. 10/660,063
Preliminary Amendment and Response to the Final Office Action Dated June 26, 2007 and the
Advisory Action dated September 13, 2007

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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for adding context to a chat transcript, the apparatus comprising:
 - means for receiving a first message, defining at least a part of said chat transcript, from a user;
 - means for analysing text of said first message;
 - means for assigning a verb to the text of said first message;
 - means for associating the verb with the user from which said first message is received;
 - means, responsive to analysis of the text, for modifying said text of said first message by adding an assigned verb and a user associated with said assigned verb to said text of said first message to create a second message in order to add context thereto; and
 - means for transmitting said second message to interested parties, wherein the second message is different than the first message as defined by an alteration to the first message selected from the group consisting of an addition of text to the first message, a deletion of text from the first message, and a replacement of text in the first message.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) Apparatus of claim 21, wherein the means for assigning a verb to the text of said first message comprises:
 - means for looking for matches between at least a portion of the text and at least one list, each item in a list being associated with at least one verb; and
 - means for selecting a verb associated with a matched item.

Application No. 10/660,063
Preliminary Amendment and Response to the Final Office Action Dated June 26, 2007 and the
Advisory Action dated September 13, 2007

4. (Original) Apparatus of claim 3, wherein a plurality of verbs are associated with at least one item in at least one list.
5. (Original) Apparatus of claim 4, wherein associated verbs are assigned weightings which determine how often said verbs are assigned by said assigning means.
6. (Currently Amended) Apparatus of claim 21, wherein the means for assigning a verb to the text of said first message comprises:
means for replacing at least a portion of the text of said first message with said verb.
7. (Currently Amended) Apparatus of claim 21, wherein said means for modifying the text of said first message in order to add context thereto comprises:
means for defining how the text of said first message should be displayed at a client according to at least one predefined rule.
8. (Original) Apparatus of claim 7, comprising:
means for instructing said client how to display said text, based upon at least one predefined rule.
9. (Currently Amended) Apparatus of claim 21 comprising:
means for a user to indicate their mood; and
means for using said indicated mood to influence the context added to said text of said first message.
10. (Original) Apparatus of claim 9 comprising:
means for including an adverb as part of said context, said adverb chosen according to the mood indicated by the user.
11. (Original) Apparatus of claim 1 comprising:

Application No. 10/660,063
Preliminary Amendment and Response to the Final Office Action Dated June 26, 2007 and the
Advisory Action dated September 13, 2007

means for storing a history of the chat transcript.

12. (Original) Apparatus of claim 11 comprising:
 - means for updating said stored chat transcript;
 - means for reflecting any changes in said transcript on the display screens of users involved in the chat.
13. (Currently Amended) Apparatus of claim 1 comprising:
 - means for informing a user to whom the text of said first message belongs of the suggested context;
 - means for receiving acceptance or rejection of said suggested context;
 - and
 - means for acting upon said rejection or acceptance.
14. (Original) Apparatus of claim 1 comprising:
 - means for assigning context based on a predetermined theme.

Application No. 10/660,063
Preliminary Amendment and Response to the Final Office Action Dated June 26, 2007 and the
Advisory Action dated September 13, 2007

15. (Currently Amended) A method for adding context to a chat transcript, the method comprising the steps of:
- receiving a first message, defining at least a part of said chat transcript, from a user;
 - analysing the text of said first message;
 - assigning a verb to the text of said first message;
 - associating the verb with the user from which said first message is received;
 - responsive to analysis of the text, modifying said text of said first message by adding an assigned verb and a user associated with said assigned verb to said text of said first message to create a second message in order to add context thereto; and
 - transmitting said second message to interested parties;
 - wherein the second message is different than the first message as defined by an alteration to the first message selected from the group consisting of an addition of text to the first message, a deletion of text from the first message, and a replacement of text in the first message.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4615, wherein the step of assigning a verb to the text of said first message comprises:

- looking for matches between at least a portion of the text and at least one list, each item in a list being associated with at least one verb; and
- selecting a verb associated with a matched item.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein a plurality of verbs are associated with at least one item in at least one list.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein associated verbs are assigned weightings which determine how often said verbs are assigned.

Application No. 10/660,063

Preliminary Amendment and Response to the Final Office Action Dated June 26, 2007 and the
Advisory Action dated September 13, 2007

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~46~~15, wherein the step of assigning a verb to the text of said first message comprises:
replacing at least a portion of the text of said first message with said verb.
21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~46~~15, wherein the step of modifying the text of said first message in order to add context thereto comprises:
defining how the text of said first message should be displayed at a client according to at least one predefined rule.
22. (Original) The method of claim 21, comprising the step of:
instructing said client how to display said text, based upon at least one predefined rule.
23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~46~~15 comprising the steps of:
enabling a user to indicate their mood; and
using said indicated mood to influence the context added to said text of said first message.
24. (Original) The method of claim 23 comprising the step of:
including an adverb as part of said context, said adverb chosen according to the mood indicated by the user.
25. (Original) The method of claim 15 comprising the step of:
storing a history of the chat transcript.
26. (Original) The method of claim 25 comprising the steps of:
updating said stored chat transcript;
reflecting any changes in said transcript on the display screens of users involved in the chat.
27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 comprising the steps of:

Application No. 10/660,063
Preliminary Amendment and Response to the Final Office Action Dated June 26, 2007 and the
Advisory Action dated September 13, 2007

informing a user to whom the text of said first message belongs of the
suggested context;

receiving acceptance or rejection of said suggested context; and
acting upon said rejection or acceptance.

28. (Original) The method of claim 15 comprising the step of:
assigning context based on a predetermined theme.

Application No. 10/660,063
Preliminary Amendment and Response to the Final Office Action Dated June 26, 2007 and the
Advisory Action dated September 13, 2007

29. (Currently Amended) A computer readable set of instructions embodied in a tangible medium for adding context to a chat transcript, the computer readable set of instructions embodied in a tangible medium comprising code means adapted to perform, when said computer readable set of instructions embodied in a tangible medium is run on a computer, the steps of:

receiving a first message, defining at least a part of said chat transcript, from a user;

analysing the text of said first message;

assigning a verb to the text of said first message;

associating the verb with the user from which said first message is received;

responsive to analysis of the text, modifying said text of said first message by adding an assigned verb and a user associated with said assigned verb to said text of said first message to create a second message in order to add context thereto; and

transmitting said second message to interested parties;

wherein the second message is different than the first message as defined by an alteration to the first message selected from the group consisting of an addition of text to the first message, a deletion of text from the first message, and a replacement of text in the first message.

Application No. 10/660,063

Preliminary Amendment and Response to the Final Office Action Dated June 26, 2007 and the
Advisory Action dated September 13, 2007

30. (Currently Amended) A client for adding context to a chat transcript, the client comprising:

means for receiving a first message, defining at least a part of said chat transcript, from a user;

means for analysing the text of said first message;

means for assigning a verb to the text of said first message;

means for associating the verb with the user from which said first message is received;

means, responsive to analysis of the text, for modifying said text of said first message by adding an assigned verb and a user associated with said assigned verb to said text of said first message to create a second message in order to add context thereto; and

means for transmitting said second message to interested parties;

wherein the second message is different than the first message as defined by an alteration to the first message selected from the group consisting of an addition of text to the first message, a deletion of text from the first message, and a replacement of text in the first message.

Application No. 10/660,063

Preliminary Amendment and Response to the Final Office Action Dated June 26, 2007 and the
Advisory Action dated September 13, 2007

31. (Currently Amended) A server for adding context to a chat transcript, the server comprising:
- means for receiving a first message, defining at least a part of said chat transcript, from a user;
 - means for analyzing the text of said first message;
 - means for assigning a verb to the text of said first message;
 - means for associating the verb with the user from which said first message is received;
 - means, responsive to analysis of the text, for modifying said text of said first message by adding an assigned verb and a user associated with said assigned verb to said text of said first message to create a second message in order to add context thereto; and
 - means for transmitting said second message to interested parties;
 - wherein the second message is different than the first message as defined by an alteration to the first message selected from the group consisting of an addition of text to the first message, a deletion of text from the first message, and a replacement of text in the first message.